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**Subject:** Weekend Report from R8

## **Weekend Report from R8**

*CO Air Quality Program and CPP* -- The Denver Post reported this week that opponents to the Clean Power Plan in the CO Legislature were attempting to defund the State's air program in response to Governor Hickenlooper's statements that the State would continue work on a State CPP plan. I talked to the Governor's Office about how likely it was for the program to be defunded. Gov's Office was confident it would be resolved next Tuesday when the Joint Budget Committee meets, and that the Air Program would be funded.

*CFAC Tour with Senator Tester* -- On Thursday, Senator Jon Tester toured the Anaconda Aluminum Columbia Falls Reduction Plant site together with representatives from Glencore (the PRP), MT DEQ, Columbia Falls Mayor and city officials, 8 reporters, and R8's project lead for CFAC, Mike Cirian. According to Mike, the tour went very well. As you can see in the article below, the Senator expressed his strong preference for the site being listed on the NPL, as opposed to the Superfund Alternative approach. His comments in the article were positive toward EPA's role.

[http://www.dailyinterlake.com/news/local\\_montana/tester-still-wants-superfund-cleanup/article\\_412b8aa4-f20d-11e5-8a3b-572d94252c2d.html](http://www.dailyinterlake.com/news/local_montana/tester-still-wants-superfund-cleanup/article_412b8aa4-f20d-11e5-8a3b-572d94252c2d.html)

*PFCs in Security-Widefield, CO* -- Data from samples collected within the distribution systems of Security, Widefield, and Fountain Water Districts continues to demonstrate their ability to blend water from the aquifer and other sources to maintain perfluorooctanoic sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) concentrations below the provisional health advisory level at consumer taps. A coordination call was held on 3/21/16 and included Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), El Paso County Health Department, EPA and the three water districts. CDPHE is in the process of procuring contract support for up to 150 well water and surface water samples using joint funding from EPA, El Paso County Health Department, and CDPHE program funds. El Paso County Health Department is fielding requests for sampling from private well owners and coordinating directly with CDPHE to schedule these sampling events. EPA, CDPHE and El Paso County Health Department committed to the water districts that coordination will continue on public messaging around enhancing understanding of the issue and providing context around health risks in light of the current PFC health advisories and the pending changes expected soon from EPA's Office of Water. The Air Force has begun site assessment work at Peterson Air Force Base and they have agreed with a CDPHE request to delay abandonment of monitoring wells that could assist in characterizing PFC contamination. In addition to the Air Force work on characterizing the source over the coming weeks, CDPHE plans to collect and analyze surface water samples from Windmill Gulch, where the highest PFC concentrations were found during previous UCMR3 sampling efforts and confirmed by more recent CDPHE sampling.

*Lead Drinking Water State Oversight* -- The Drinking Water Program (DWP) have two new staff to assist with evaluation of state lead and copper rule implementation. The team will commence state program evaluation and planning work this week. To date, the DWP has hosted informational conference calls with all states to address

additional questions and concerns about Region 8's proposed timeline for obtaining responses to program implementation questions and about drinking water systems that have exceeded the action level for lead. Colorado has been unable to meet these deadlines due to their current resource demands for implementation of several new state rules that just recently became effective, and the need to obtain review and approval of the information that will be provided to EPA from their Director of Environmental Programs. Colorado hopes to be able to respond to Region 8 by mid-April. Wyoming does not have a delegated DWP; therefore, the response to questions will come directly from Region 8. Following is a table summarizing the state responses received thus far:

<b>R8 State</b>	<b>Informational Call</b>	<b>Response to Implementation Questions (Due 03/11/16)</b>	<b>Response for High Priority Systems (Due 03/18/16)</b>	<b>Response for Low Priority Systems (Due 03/31/16)</b>	<b>Response to Letter from Deputy AA for OW, Joel Beauvais</b>
Colorado	03/10/16				
Montana	03/02/16	03/15/16	03/15/16	03/15/16	
North Dakota	03/02/16	03/11/16	03/11/16	03/11/16	
South Dakota	03/02/16	03/11/16	03/11/16	N/A	03/11/16
Utah	03/10/16	03/18/16	03/18/16		
Wyoming	03/11/16	N/A to DEQ	N/A to DEQ	N/A to DEQ	
Region 8 DI	Hosted all state calls				

*Week of March 28<sup>th</sup>* – I will be out on Annual Leave all of next week (visiting with my wife's family in NH). I will have EPA email and phone access if you need anything, otherwise, Deb will be acting in my place (except for on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup>, when Rick Buhl, ARA, will be acting).

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Sent from my iPad